



The Hongkong Telegraph

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PEKING STUDYING PEACE PLAN

Indications Of Acceptance "With Reservations"

COMMENT

Warm congratulations will be extended to the Director of Medical Services and to the retired Director of Education on the impending fulfilment of their, for Hongkong almost revolutionary, scheme providing a system of health insurance for local school children. Such has been parental enthusiasm already that more than 20,000 pupils will be included in the initial enrolment—a gratifying start.

Assuming no unforeseen pitfalls mar the pioneer effort, the intention of Government is, of course, to foster rapid extension of the project until the entire schoolchild population is catered for. Progress may be gradual, but it is easy to predict that it will be sure for the benefits are plain and the cost trivial.

The only point of comment in a critical vein arises not out of the Newton-Rowell conception. It is to be discovered in the immediate reaction of those keenly interested in social welfare in the Colony, in the trials and tribulations of the underprivileged, which boiled down to essentials poses the question: Why limit the scope of the experiment to children?

While endeavours to promote higher health standards among children are getting under way, none will expect entry into new and more complicated channels. An excellent example should, nevertheless, encourage investigation—gaining knowledge mayhap from the success attending the Newton project—of the possibility of devising a practical insurance scheme covering the Colony's workers.

Nothing on the scale of Britain's present National Health provisions can be envisaged, but it might be well worth while to study proposals based on the original Lloyd George health scheme—9d for 4d as it was called—introduced in 1906 with tremendously beneficial results. In principle it calls for contributions by employee and employer on an equal basis and limits participation to individuals whose wages fall below a defined limit. For Hongkong, patently, it is a project for the future, but it is not too early to begin thinking it through.

Cease-Fire To Coincide With Four-Power Talks

London, Jan. 15.

Informed quarters said today that there are indications that Communist China may accept the United Nations proposals for a settlement in Korea with "certain reservations."

The Indian ambassador in Peking is understood to have advised the Prime Minister, the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in London that Red China will consent to four-power talks, providing the troops were not expected to withdraw from their present positions in Korea.

The Chinese are apparently willing to accept the proposals from the United Nations Political Committee itself, but not from the three-man cease-fire committee which Peking maintains is not "representative."

BRITAIN'S ALL-OUT DEFENCE DRIVE

London, Jan. 15.

Britain's top defence planners satisfied General Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the Atlantic Pact Army, today that before the end of this year he will have behind him a Britain stronger than ever before in peacetime.

Military Chiefs of Staff told the General these things:

(1) Britain's arms will, over the next three years, be boosted to nearly £5,000 million in place of the £3,600 million programme previously planned.

(2) Armament orders amounting to £450,000,000 have already been placed, and industry is being geared up to a near war-time production effort.

(3) Already, 500,000 workers are engaged in arms production and by the end of March this figure will be up to 750,000.

(4) A scheme is on paper for an experimental call up of over 100,000 Z-class reserves, veterans of World War II who will be put under canvas for three months' training.

(5) The production of tanks and planes will be doubled and four new army divisions organised in the next year or so.

(6) Britain will probably station four army divisions instead of three in Germany under the Atlantic Pact organisation.

(7) Britain and the Commonwealth countries have agreed on a rough blue-print for the defence of the Middle East which, with the Eastern Mediterranean, will form one of General Eisenhower's three Atlantic Pact zones. The others are Scandinavia and Western Europe.

The new rearmament plan has still to be passed by the Cabinet.

The austerity it will bring to British homes will be a formidable political problem for the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, and his Ministers. —Reuter.

Indian advices from Peking indicate that Red China realises that rejection of the proposals for four-power talks would weaken her hopes for a seat in the United Nations and for pushing her claim to Formosa.

The Chinese, it is said, believe that while the United Nations forces remain somewhere in Korea, their bargaining position would be better than if the United Nations troops were forced into the sea—a development which would leave the Western powers in no mood for talking.

It was understood that the latest advices from Peking to Mr Nehru did not deal with the United Nations resolution for a cease-fire but were answers to Mr Nehru's request last week for clarification of certain details in previous advices on the Chinese attitude. —United Press.

SIMULTANEOUS MOVES

New Delhi, Jan. 15.

Indian Government quarters said today that they believe Communist China will demand that any cease-fire in Korea should coincide with the opening of the Big Four talks on Formosa and Korea.

An official Indian spokesman said the only evidence available is that the United Nations plan is receiving careful consideration by the Chinese Government.

He said: "The only question they have been insisting on so far is that the cease-fire and consultations on other issues should proceed side by side. The present solution does not specify the times when the various steps have to be taken."

Government quarters added the Chinese would insist on simultaneous moves, but the spokesman said: "The Government of India does not know the final reaction of the Chinese Government." —United Press.

Gen. Mansergh Off To Korea

Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Mansergh, commander of British forces in Hongkong, left this morning for Japan by BOAC to visit General MacArthur's Headquarters.

General Mansergh, who will later visit the British 27th and 29th Infantry Brigades in Korea, will be away from Hongkong for about 10 days.

Republican's Attack Over Hongkong

Washington, Jan. 15.

Senator Paul Douglas (Democrat) in a senate speech today said that the United States armed forces should be increased to 6,000,000 men by next December 1 to prepare for any sudden Communist attack upon the West.

Earlier, Senator Ralph Flanders (Republican) had told the Senate that he strongly felt that Britain "must decide whether to cleave to the cause of freedom or the cause of tyranny and aggression."

"The conscience and judgment to the British people must be focused on the high issues involved in Britain's possession and use of the island of Hongkong. The public opinion of the world must be focused upon and support pressure from conscientious and intelligent citizens of Britain on their irresolute government. This issue must be so sharply drawn that her government shall have no alternative but to serve its own interests and the interests of its people by sacrificing the paltry millions or billions of Hongkong trade to the great purpose of maintaining a free world." —United Press.

G.B.S. Legacy To Secretary

London, Jan. 15.

George Bernard Shaw left an income of £500 a year for life to his secretary, Miss Blanche Patch. She disclosed this today at a news conference on her book "Thirty Years with G.B.S."

Miss Patch was also offered Shaw's house at Ayot St Lawrence, Hertfordshire, where he died last November, but she declined as she did not like the place—"it was much too cold."

The last thing that Shaw wrote was his income tax return when he was ill. Miss Patch had to hold his wrist as he signed. "They were the worst signatures of his that I have ever seen but apparently they satisfied the Inspector of Taxes," she declared.

Labour Group Attacks MacA

London, Jan. 15.

The Labour Party of the Gloucester villages of Stroud and Thornbury today passed a resolution calling for the dismissal of General Douglas MacArthur.

The resolution also called on Britain's Labour Government to use all its influence to stop the proposed meeting of the Big Four powers as the first step to force General MacArthur's dismissal. —United Press.

HUGE U.S. MILITARY BUDGET

Washington, Jan. 15.

More than 50 percent of the tax dollars the American public will pay during the 1952 financial year will be spent on military service. Individual taxes will provide over 30 percent of the budget dollars.

Taking \$1 as the gauging unit, this is where the budget dollar is to come from:

Individual taxes 35 cents; corporation taxes 27 cents; excise (sales) taxes 11 cents; customs and other levies four cents; proposed new taxes 23 cents. Total \$1.

Again, with the dollar as the calculating unit, this is how the Americans' tax dollars will be spent:

Military service 58 cents; foreign programmes 10 cents; interest on United States debts 8 cents; veterans' benefits 7 cents; all other expenses 17 cents. Total \$1.

A budget of US\$71,594 million was submitted to Congress by President Truman yesterday. This calls for an expenditure of US\$41,421 million to build up America's armed strength and US\$7,112 million to build up the armed strength of her Allies. —Reuter.

Rome Staircase Disaster

Rome, Jan. 15.

Three hundred screaming girl typists were buried in rubble here today when a 60-foot marble staircase collapsed under their weight.

They were queuing for a job. Forty of them, badly injured, were rushed to hospital. No deaths were reported. —Reuter.

Heroic Mother In Fire Tragedy

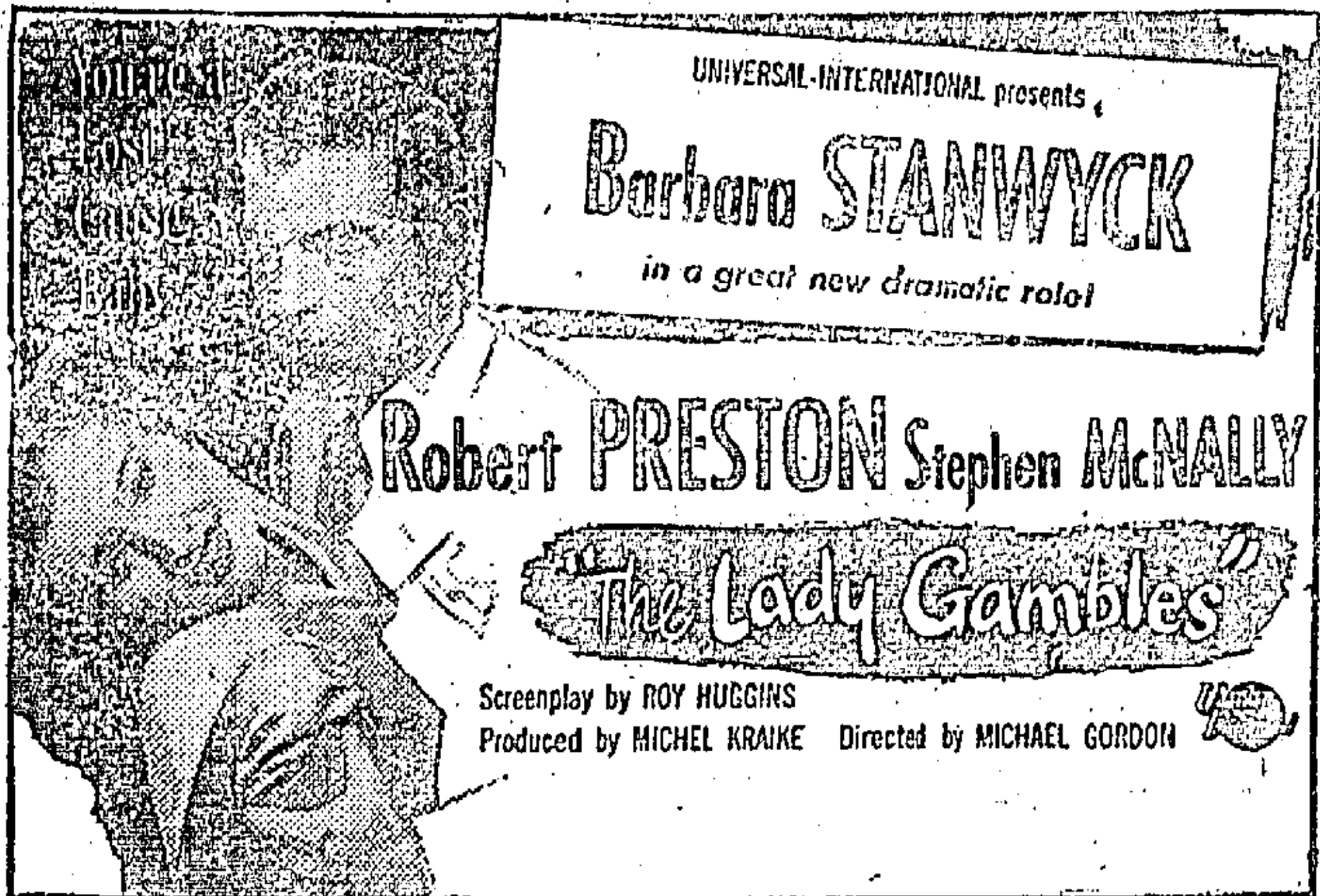
Tokyo, Jan. 15.

A Tokyo mother who rescued three of her children one by one from the bedroom of her burning house was caught by the flames and burnt to death in an early morning fire in downtown Tokyo today. —Reuter.

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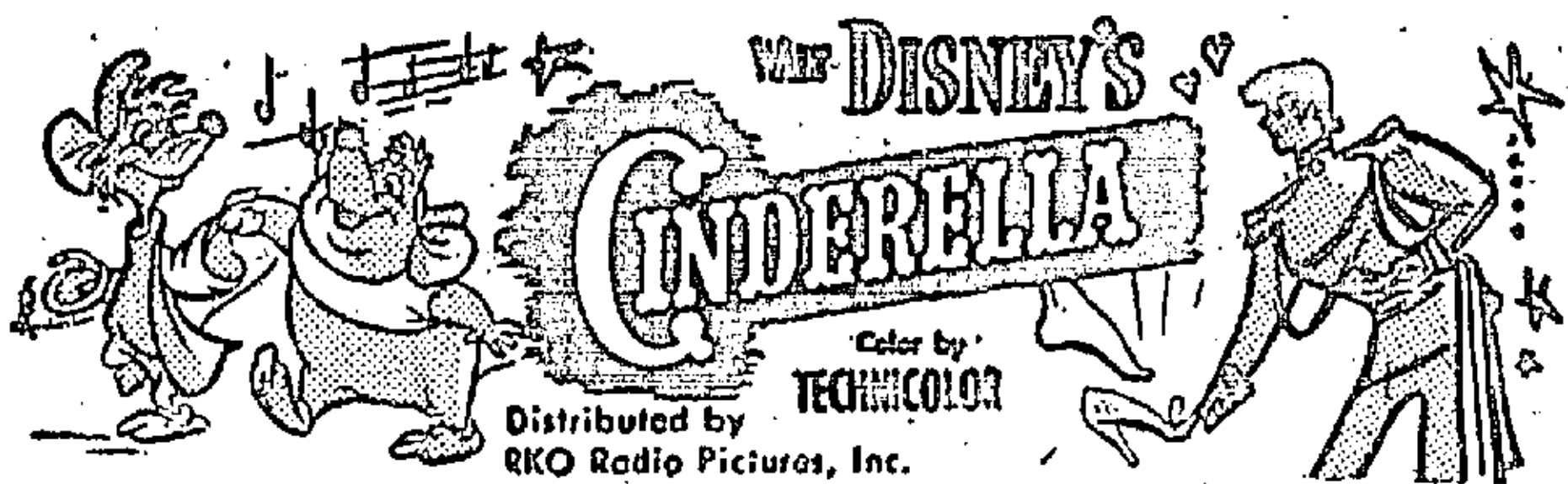
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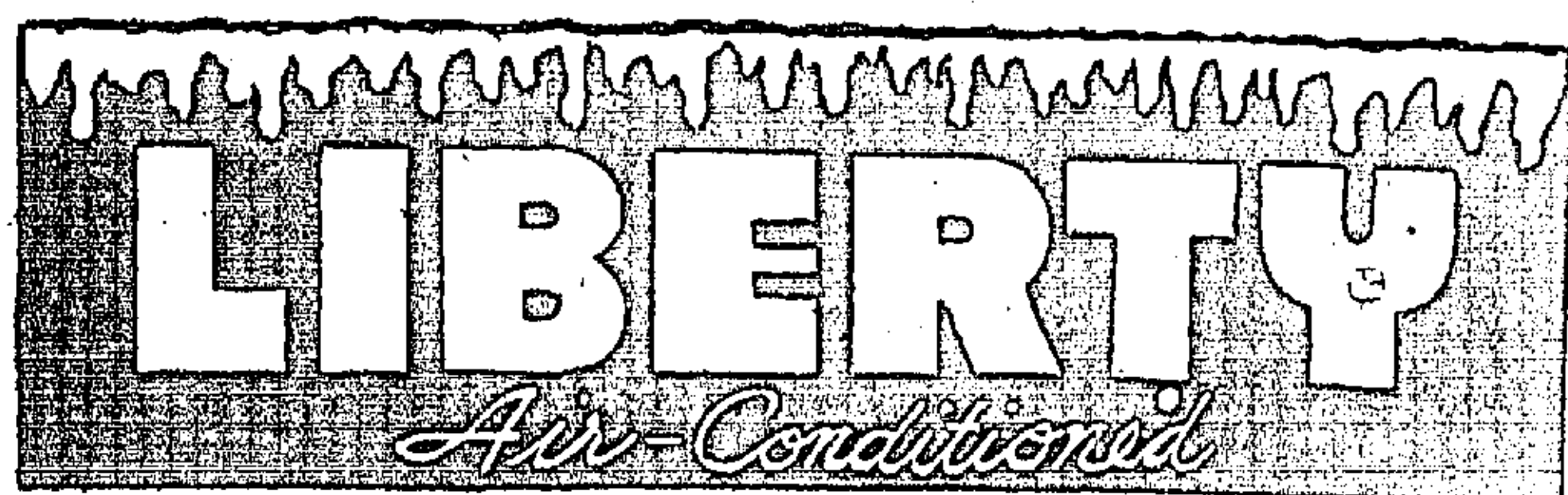
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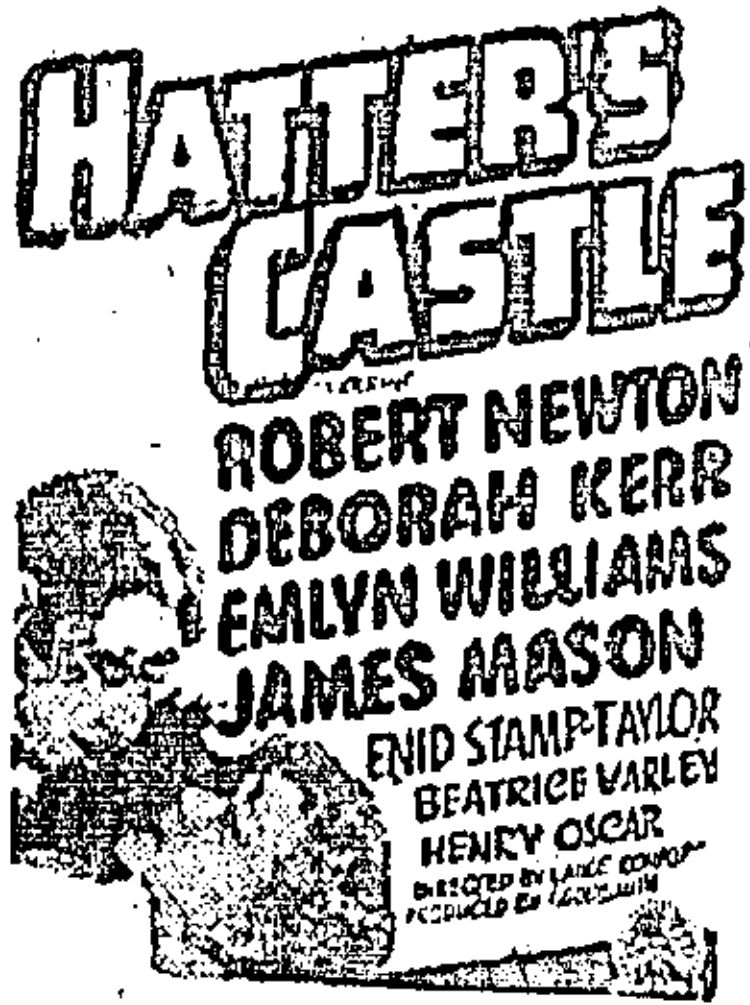
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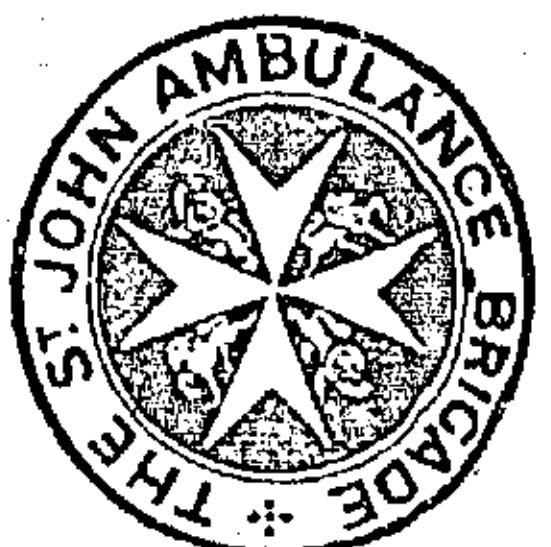


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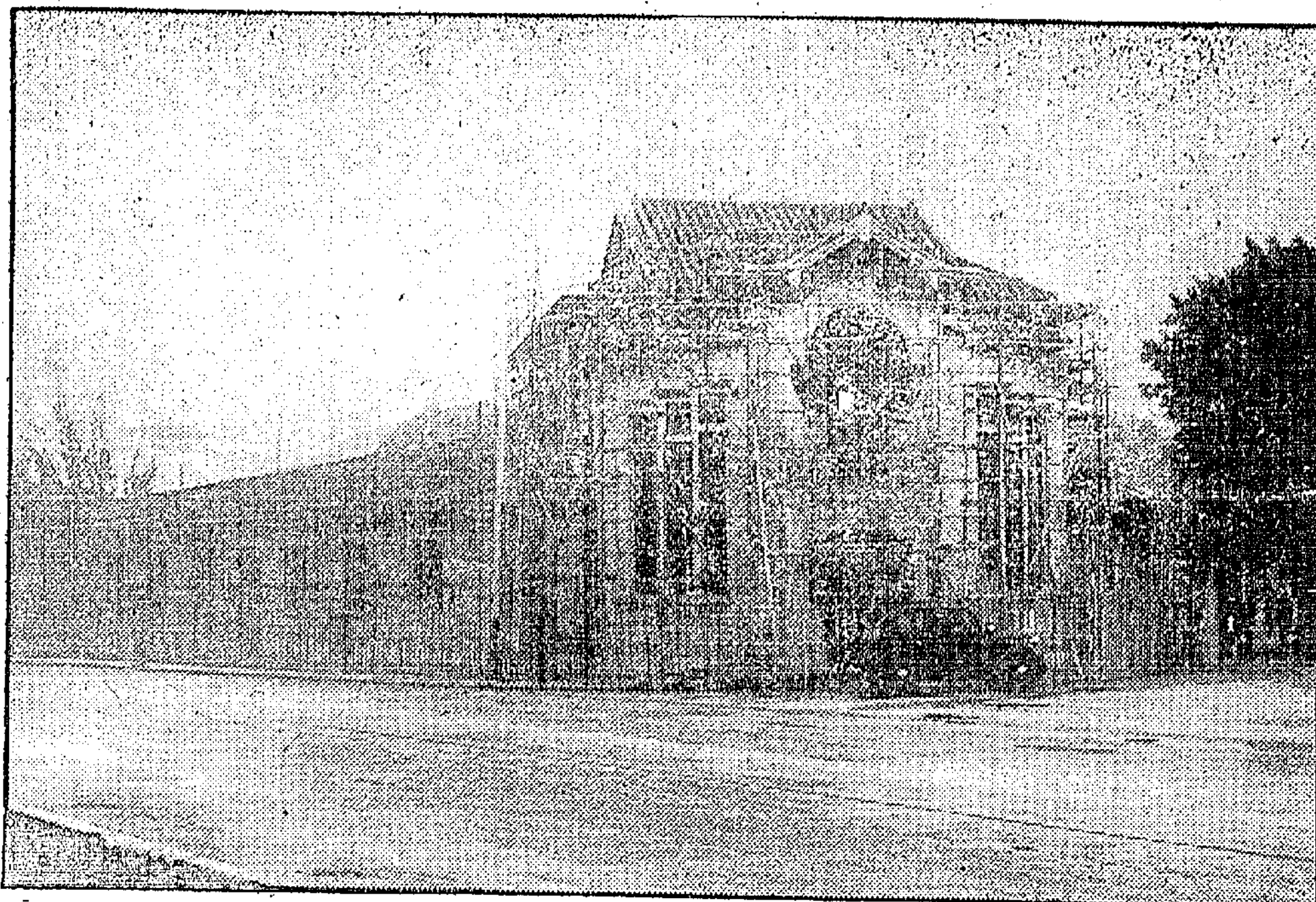
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The old Civil Service Cricket Club at Happy Valley, looted during the war and for several years afterwards a squatters' hang-out, is being renovated and extended for use as the new Hongkong Defence Force Headquarters. Our picture shows scaffolding on the old Club as renovation work gets under way.—(Staff Photographer).

UNEXPECTED CHALLENGE BY SOEKARNO ON DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Djakarta, Jan. 15.

The Indonesian President, Dr I. R. Soekarno, in an unexpected speech tonight, declared that he was convinced that Dutch New Guinea would be returned to Indonesia before sunrise on January 1, 1952, "if the Indonesian people are really united."

The talks at The Hague on the future of Western New Guinea, part of an island 90 miles north of Australia, broke down last month.

The President, who was speaking at a dinner to local journalists, said: "The situation now is that the Netherlands occupies part of our country. This means that we have to revise our co-operation with the Dutch."

This made the situation for himself "very difficult" because he was one of the defenders of co-operation with the Netherlands, he added.

He said: "Every demand of ours must be coupled with pressure. This does not mean that we have to start an armed invasion of New Guinea. The

Indonesian people do not want war.

"The Indonesian people must be reorganised to become powerful. This is the task of the Government and leaders in the near future. They have to lead the people to this end because otherwise we will never fulfil our political wishes."

President Soekarno said that his pledge of loyalty as President bound him to the Indonesian Constitution, which stipulated that the independent Republic of Indonesia should consist of the whole of the former Netherlands East Indies (which included Western New Guinea).

He added: "I am tied to a Parliamentary system and because of that I have to remain in certain bounds."

Reasserting that New Guinea was still a national claim, President Soekarno said that he was disappointed, and so were the Indonesian people, at the breakdown in The Hague talks.

This was President Soekarno's first public statement on New Guinea since The Hague talks ended.—Reuter.

Religious Work In Red China

Los Angeles, Jan. 15.

The Chinese Communist Government has not padlocked the doors of Christian churches, a Chinese Episcopalian Bishop said today, although it has imposed many hampering restrictions.

The Right Reverend Thu Yu Yue, former Bishop of Yun Kwei, Yunnan province, said that churches in his homeland are allowed to continue their work as best they can under the new restrictions. Although many missionaries left China because of difficult conditions, none was forced out for religious reasons, said the Bishop who is here for a two-month speaking tour.—United Press.

Canadian Prime Minister's Plane Stalls

Ottawa, Jan. 15.

The plane carrying the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Louis St. Laurent, back to Ottawa from his trip to Britain and France has been delayed in Iceland with engine trouble, the Royal Canadian Air Force Headquarters reported today.

The RCAF Headquarters said that the plane had landed at Keflavik, 22 miles southwest of Reykjavik, the Icelandic capital, with carburetor trouble in one of its four engines.

A spokesman said: "Everything possible is being done to minimise the delay" but there was no indication how long the plane would be delayed.—Reuter.

VIOLENT GALE IN ATLANTIC

New York, Jan. 15.

Four trans-Atlantic liners radioed that they would arrive in New York 24 hours late because of a huge storm circling in the North Atlantic. The vessels are the Cunard liner Mauretania with 813 passengers, the Norwegian American liner Oslo Fjord with 504 passengers, and the Navy transport S. D. Sturgis with 1,300 passengers from Germany, all due to arrive today.

The Cunard liner Scythia, due Tuesday, said she would dock Wednesday morning. Seven trans-Atlantic inbound freighters also were delayed by the storm.—United Press.

Arab Meeting

Baghdad, Jan. 15.

The Iraqi delegation to the meeting of the Political Committee of the Arab League on January 20 will leave here for Cairo by air tomorrow.

The plane will pick up the Iraqi Prime Minister, General Nuri es-Said Pasha, at Amman, Jordan, where he has been having talks with King Abdullah and the Jordan Premier.—Reuter.

TAFT TIRADE AGAINST TRUMAN

Accuses President Of Abuse Of Power In Critical Days

"Blind Partisans Of The Administration"

New York, Jan. 15.

"We cannot possibly rely on the United Nations as a weapon against Russian aggression," declared Senator Robert Taft (Republican, Ohio) in an address before the Ohio Society tonight.

"The people of this country face today a constitutional crisis affecting the whole basis of government in the United States and the liberty of the people themselves."

Pershing Tanks Sent To Berlin

Berlin, Jan. 15.

Twenty-two of America's heaviest operational tanks—the 45-ton Pershing—arrived here today to strengthen the United States garrison in Berlin.

Today's American armoured reinforcements bring the total Allied strength in West Berlin to an estimated 34 medium and heavy tanks, about 16 other light armoured vehicles, and between 12,000 and 15,000 troops.

The East German people's police are estimated by the Allies at between 50,000 and 70,000 picked men.—Reuter.

Aborigines Go On Strike

Sydney, Jan. 15.

A despatch today said that all Australian aborigines in the Darwin area of the remote Northwest Australian coast had struck for a basic wage of £7 per week.

Aborigines now receive £2 a week when employed by the Government, in addition to their board and lodging, clothing, tobacco transport and money for movie shows. In private employment, natives receive £1 per week in addition to other benefits.

They now demand that they be given a full wage which they can spend as they like.—United Press.

No Explanation For McClure's "Relief"

Washington, Jan. 15.

A United States Defence Department spokesman said today that General J. Lawton Collins, the Army Chief of Staff, went to Tokyo to find out how the Korean war was progressing.

Officials said they had no explanation to offer for the relief of Major-General Robert McClure as the Commander of the Second Division.

A spokesman said that it was most unlikely that General McClure had been relieved "with prejudices" in view of the Second Division's record of fighting in the Wonju area.

Lieutenant-General Walter Bedell Smith, the head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Major-General Alexander Bolling, the head of Army Intelligence, were said to have gone to Tokyo to discuss intelligence matters with General MacArthur's Headquarters.

There was no reference to General Hoyt Vandenberg, the Air Force Chief of Staff, who is also in Tokyo.

Meanwhile, there was continued speculation here today in press and unofficial quarters.

Senator Taft alleged that President Truman undertook a war in Korea "without legal authority and in direct violation of the statute which specified that Congress must pass on troops to be furnished the United Nations under the Charter."

"Our danger has been made crystal clear by the results of the abuse of powers of the President in recent years," he continued, adding that Congress must "reassert its constitutional right to pass upon fundamental principles of foreign policy."

In the course of his speech, Senator Taft said:

"The ceasefire plan is the most complete surrender to which the United States has ever agreed. Of course, it encourages aggression and it is only a question of time before the Communist armies released by the ceasefire in Korea and the hamstringing of Chiang's army will march on down into Indo-China and Southeastern Asia."

PRESIDENT'S CLAIM

"The effect of the President's claim that he can agree with foreign nations to commit American soldiers to an international force in any number and any place in the world without Congressional authority is to eliminate Congress and the people themselves for all practical purposes from any part in the decision of foreign policies and making of peace ... this proposal to enter into agreement to commit American troops to an international army is a completely new proposition and a departure from past policy ..."

"The President is proposing to commit certain number of American divisions to the command of an international commander, selected not by him as commander-in-chief

of the American Army but by a group of nations. At the moment they may choose General Eisenhower. Tomorrow they may choose a British or French commanding general. The undertaking proposed is far greater than that proposed under the United Nations Charter and much more likely to produce war. It is beyond anything contemplated by the Atlantic Pact ...

"I have been shocked by the speed with which the blind partisans of the administration have rushed to the defence of the proposition that the President can make war and warlike commitments.—United Press.

TRYGVE LIE BELIEVES SENSE WILL PREVAIL

Geneva, Jan. 15.

Mr Trygve Lie, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, said here today that he was convinced a general war would be avoided.

He said he strongly supported the resolution passed by the Political Committee of the United Nations on Saturday proposing a cease-fire in Korea to be followed by six-power talks on Far Eastern problems.

"I earnestly hope that the Government of the People's Republic of China will find it possible to co-operate within the framework of that resolution," he said.

"I am convinced that a general war will be avoided and that the good sense of the leaders of the world will prevail."

Mr Lie, who was leaving for Paris by train tonight, has been in Geneva studying the possibilities of holding the sixth session of the General Assembly at the United Nations' European headquarters here.

He said that a decision would be taken in New York after he had visited Paris and London to view the facilities there.—Reuter.



Crown Prince Carl Gustaf, four, grandson of King Gustaf VI of Sweden, enjoys an outing in a park in Stockholm with his sister, Christina. The boy, whose father was killed in an air accident, assumed the title of Crown Prince on his grandfather's accession to the throne following the recent death of King Gustaf V.

Reds Release Americans

Berlin, Jan. 16.

The Soviet authorities today released three American soldiers arrested by the East German police when they entered the Soviet Zone inadvertently yesterday.

They crossed the border while hunting in the American sector district of Lichtenrade.

"The delay in securing their release was due to the fact that yesterday the Russians were celebrating their New Year's Day—and simply left their telephones off the hook," an American Army officer said.—Reuter.

French Mission

Paris, Jan. 15.

A French economic mission of technicians and industrialists will visit India, Pakistan and Ceylon next month, usually well-informed sources said here today.

M. Robert Buron, Secretary of State to the Ministry of Economic Affairs, may head the mission.—Reuter.

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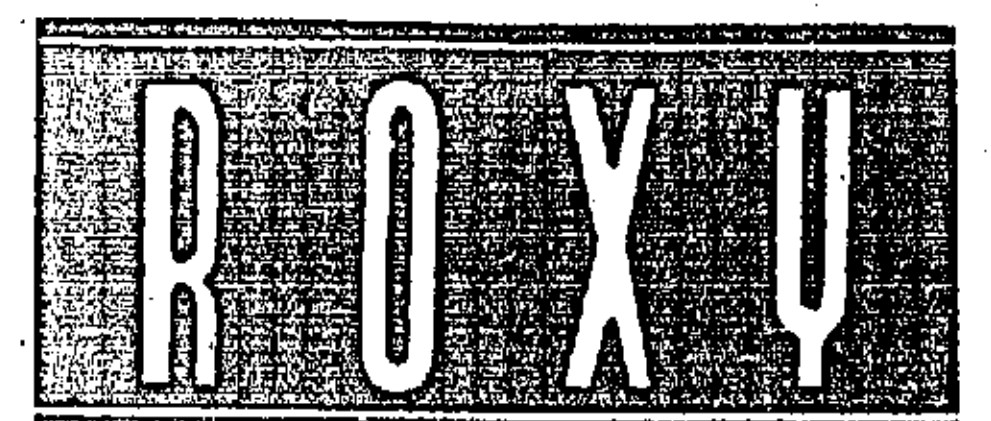


"Lost Horizon liberated!"

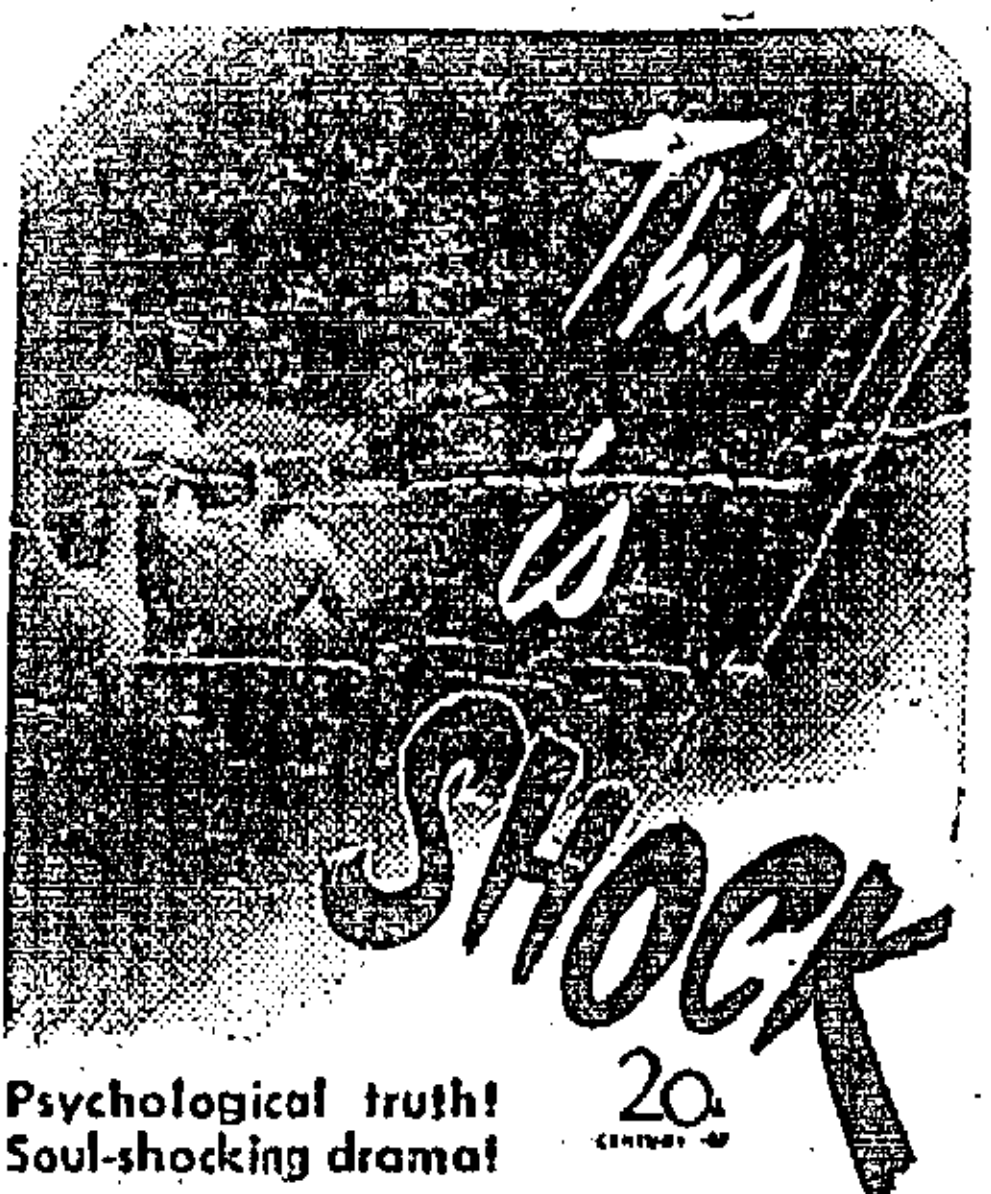
Abaca For Norway

Washington, Jan. 15.

The Economic Co-operation Administration on Monday approved a Norwegian purchase of \$250,000 worth of abaca fibre from Philippines.—United Press.



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Princess Elizabeth was in a gay mood when she attended the dance given at the Hotel Phoenicia, Malta, by the Wardroom Mess of Naval Headquarters, Lascaris. Here H. R. H. is buying a "hot dog" from Captain Ben Fisher, dressed up as a Chef. The Duke of Edinburgh is partly hidden behind the miniature Christmas tree.—(Central Press).

Greece Pledges To Fight

Boston, Jan. 15.
The Greek ambassador, M. Athanase Politis, on Monday pledged that Greece will fight on against Communist aggression at any cost.

M. Politis made this statement in a speech accepting for the Greek Government two destroyer escorts turned over to Greece under the mutual defence assistance programme. He pledged the ships will "be put to good and effective use in the common effort of the United Nations and all peace-loving people to build up the forces of the democratic world."

The destroyer escorts will be manned by Greek crews here.—United Press.

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Dulles Sees Malik On Japan Treaty

Washington, Jan. 15.

The State Department announced on Monday that Republican foreign policy advisor John Foster Dulles conferred with Russia's United Nations delegate, Jacob Malik, in New York on Saturday night on the Japanese peace settlement.

The State Department spokesman, Mr. Michael McDermott, told a Press conference on Monday that Mr. Dulles explained to Mr. Malik that his (Dulles's) forthcoming trip to Japan was "exploratory only and preliminary to further consultations between the Allied powers."

The State Department statement said textually: "Last Saturday (Jan. 13) evening, Mr. John Foster Dulles met with Mr. Jacob Malik in New York with reference to the pending Japanese peace settlement."

"Mr. Dulles explained to Mr. Malik that his trip to Japan was exploratory only and preliminary to further consultations between the Allied powers principally concerned which Mr. Dulles would expect to carry on upon his return from Japan. "It was understood that Mr. Dulles would then communicate further with Mr. Malik."

Mr. McDermott said the meeting was held at Mr. Dulles's instigation. He denied that a similar meeting was held by Mr. Dulles with representatives of other Allied governments.

The meeting with Mr. Malik was just to make sure "everybody gets things straight."

Mr. McDermott said Mr. Dulles hoped to leave for Japan this week if he can arrange air transportation.—United Press.

Mr. Dulles' meeting with Mr. Malik was called at the initiative of Mr. Dulles. The mission that Mr. Dulles is leading to Japan will investigate the Japanese feelings towards a peace settlement.

Talks will be held with Japanese leaders as well as with General MacArthur.

When the mission was announced a State Department spokesman said that the party would not be negotiating with the Japanese Government in the drafting of a treaty. It was desired to find out what the Japanese people had in mind.

"When they come back we will have a better idea of what to recommend to President Truman and the Secretary of State," the spokesman added.—Reuter.

American Tribute To De Gasperi

New York, Jan. 16.

The Times said today that Italian Premier Alcide de Gasperi has been giving proof that he deserves to rank among the greatest premiers Italy has produced since 1870.

The editorial, commenting on Mr. de Gasperi's Senate speech on Saturday said: "The Western cause was championed with impressive success by Mr. Alcide de Gasperi, that remarkable statesman."

It was a formidable display of leadership but it would be wrong to take the Italian response to the North Atlantic defence as simply rhetoric.

"Italy has her dissenters, doubters and obstructionists.... One cannot doubt, however, that prevailing opinion among those who concern themselves with national policies is in favour of the Western democracies and of playing an active role in defence of the West. Italy after all is the cradle of Western civilisation; it is inconceivable she should choose to throw open the gates to another barbarian invasion from the East."—United Press.

ILSE KOCH TO SERVE LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Augsburg, Jan. 15.

Ilse Koch, the "Red Witch of Buchenwald," was sentenced to life imprisonment here today for crimes in the horror camp of which her husband was Commandant. She was also sentenced to loss of civic rights.

This is the maximum sentence in West Germany, where the death sentence has been abolished. But Koch was not in Court to hear it passed. Following a fit on Saturday, a Court doctor said today that she was deliberately simulating mental aberration. She was unfit to appear, he said.

In the early stages of the trial Koch was charged with 36 murders, complicity in 146 more and one attempted murder, all the cases being concerned with deaths in the Buchenwald camp.

The charges were considerably reduced as the trial proceeded, and today Koch was found guilty on one charge of incitement to murder, one of incitement to attempted murder, five of incitement to severe physical mistreatment and two of incitement to physical mistreatment.

Today the Public Prosecutor announced that he had withdrawn five charges at the last moment. Details of these charges were not given.

The presiding Judge, giving the Court's findings, stated that Koch had been acquitted on the other charges, but the number and details of these charges were not stated in Court.

Immediately after the verdict had been announced, Dr Alfred Seidl, the Defence Counsel, said that he would appeal to the West German Supreme Court on Koch's behalf.

Koch is to be informed of the sentence in writing, probably tomorrow. The sentence is to be served in Aichach Prison.

IN BED

Today she was in a hospital bed in Aichach Prison, near Augsburg. She was taken there on Saturday after throwing a fit which doctors said was "another case of play acting."

Ilse Koch, who 10 years ago was proud and beautiful, flaunting her face and figure before thousands of concentration camp prisoners, is today a sour and slovenly woman of 44.

Looking at the drooping, bored figure sitting in Court, it was hard to imagine the vigorous business-like ex-typist from Dresden who, according to prisoners' testimony, personified both beauty and the beast.

Koch never had any intellectual interests. In prison she sits around and occasionally fingers a magazine. She has almost entirely ceased correspondence with her children and other relatives. Her two children, one aged 12 and the other 11, live near Stuttgart with her sister-in-law, Frau Erne Raible, and go to the State primary school there.

They are said to be pretty and pleasant children. Ilse Koch has not been on speaking terms with Frau Raible since 1945.

NOTORIOUS WOMAN

Shortly after her trial before an American Court at Dachau in 1947, Koch had an illegitimate child by another prisoner in Landsberg Prison, Bavaria. This child lives in a Munich orphanage.

Ilse's old mother in Berlin, Frau Anna Koehler, gave up her daughter in despair many years ago. Even in her Buchenwald heyday, Ilse neglected her mother completely.

She became notorious in post-war years as "the woman with the lampshade made of human skin," "the Red Witch of Buchenwald" and "one of the worst women the world has ever known."

Citizens of Augsburg who packed the Court every day throughout the trial had their fill of sensation. Witnesses, after witnesses—many showing the effects of detention in the horror camp—told of the satanic whims of the arrogant, vicious "Mis-

tress of Buchenwald," who, as the Commandant's wife, had no official authority over the prisoners.

They described how Koch, wearing a bathing suit or other scanty garb, would preen herself before the prisoners, lashing out with her riding crop at the "swine" who dared to look at her and noting their names so that the SS guards could "punish" them.—Reuter.

BIG FOUR TALKS MAY INCLUDE FAR EAST

London, Jan. 15.

Informed sources said today that the three Western powers had mapped plans to include the Far East in the agenda of the proposed four-power meeting with Russia.

However, the United States, Britain and France would insist that the agenda of the Foreign Ministers' talks should not be limited to German demilitarisation, but cover all issues behind the current tension in Europe.

The reply by the United States, Britain and France to Moscow was expected before the end of the week. The British draft of the proposed answer to the Soviet note of New Year's Eve was dispatched to Washington during the week-end, with suggestions for minor modifications of the American draft received earlier last week.

The Western diplomats expected early co-ordination of the three Western draft replies to Moscow and a meeting of the four Foreign Ministers' deputies next month, probably in Europe.

Extension of the French-British-American-Russian conference to the Far East was proving increasingly impracticable. For one thing, most Western officials realise that the Far Eastern situation cannot be profitably discussed without China, but inclusion of China would automatically raise the issue of who should represent her.

Furthermore, proposals for a separate big power conference on the Far East have been made by the Commonwealth Prime Ministers and may develop into something concrete. It has therefore been tacitly agreed to narrow the scope of the proposed four-power meeting to European issues and such general issues as control of atomic energy.—United Press.

Toll Of Road

Wilhelmshaven, Jan. 15.

Two passengers died and eight were injured when a trailer skidded and crashed into a lorry on an ice-covered road near here today.

Three people were killed and 15 were injured in a tramcar collision today, in Gothenburg, Sweden, Stockholm Radio reported.—Reuter.

FRENCH DEFENSIVE-OFFENSIVE

Knocking Vietminh Battalions Off Balance

Prevention Of Major Attack On The Tonkin Delta

Hanoi, Jan. 15.

French Union forces, poised on the lip of this rich "rice-bowl" delta, are hitting out with a new "defensive-offensive" against the Communist-led Vietminh rebels.

Father Had No Comment

Grand Rapids, Michigan, Jan. 15.

Last year 11-year-old Suzanne Coats decided to toss over her Republican upbringing and become a Democrat. She had a letter from President Truman on Monday telling her it was a good idea.

Suzanne's parents did not know about the child's decision until a letter on white House stationery arrived, signed "Harry S. Truman."

Suzanne had written the President: "I am sorry my dad's Republican. But I think you are doing a good job, and when I grow up I am going to be a Democrat."

The President replied: "I was happy to receive your letter, and you should be complimented on your decision to become a Democrat."

Republican father Edward Coats said, "No comment." — United Press.

Bid To Split West Germans

Washington, Jan. 15.

Officials of the United States Government today welcomed as "logical and sensible" the West German Federal Chancellor, Dr Konrad Adenauer's, rejection of the East German Premier, Dr Grotewohl's offer for talks on German unity.

They regarded the offer as a Soviet attempt to split West Germans and weaken their determination to stand with the Western Allies against Communist pressure.

Some State Department officials were inclined to regard the offer by Dr Grotewohl as a Soviet-sponsored "kite" to test the West Germans' solidarity. — Reuter.

Building Up U.S. Army

Washington, Jan. 15.

The United States Army will have a strength equal to 24 combat divisions by this summer, officers said here today.

The outlook was described in connection with a Tokyo statement by General J. Lawton Collins, the Army Chief of Staff. General Collins said that troop replacements would begin to arrive in Korea in numbers within two or three months and mentioned plans to call up more National Guardsmen (territorials) and to organise new regular divisions. — Reuter.

Usually reliable military observers in this anxious capital, fast becoming a "ghost city" for all but the Vietnamese, say that the French aim is to keep knocking the increasing number of China-equipped Vietminh battalions off-balance so that they cannot mount a possible all-round attack on the delta.

Observers here believe that it will at least temporarily wrest the initiative from the rebels, who failed quickly to follow up their successes against the French in their recent costly evacuation of their outposts on the China border.

Everywhere, French officers are growing more confident that they can hold the Vietminh. But they just shrug their shoulders and throw up their hands if asked: "What will you do if China sends her armies to help the Vietminh?"

Although it is well-known that the French Union forces are getting some reinforcements from France to replace seven lost battalions, and military equipment from the United States to increase their firepower, no one really expects the French to stand their ground and be overrun if hordes of Chinese Communist "volunteers" come.

Military observers here think that it would be only logical for them to shrink the big bridgehead east towards the coast of the Tonkin Gulf.

They believe that, in this event, France could do no more to fulfil her international obligations in Tonkin than continue to employ the toughest delaying tactics while ensuring that her valuable European forces live to fight another day.

KOREA LESSON

They regard the present swift blows dealt at known Vietminh concentrations, particularly on the northern sector of the present 600-kilometre (360-mile) bridgehead periphery as the spearhead of this French strategy in Tonkin.

This strategy, observers argue, fits in with the lessons learnt in Korea and conforms with the general principles of Western policy in the Far East of not committing valuable forces too deeply with the armies of Russia's satellites.

French official advice to evacuate French and foreign women and children from the Tonkin delta, "because of the international situation," is seen here as evidence that France now sees Indo-China as part of a wider Allied global strategy.

Frenchmen, familiar with what is going on, mainly agree with the way the Tonkin policy appears to be shaping. But it could be perturbing to the big Vietnamese population who have remained loyal to the French, and who have little chance to evacuate because of

the cost and transport limitations.

Many of these are now tending to sit-on-the-fence and are attempting to avoid direct involvement.

MORALE GOOD

Observers think that though the bulk of the Vietnamese are by no means Communist, they would reluctantly accept a Vietminh invasion. But they really fear the arrival of the Chinese Communists.

Nevertheless, Vietnamese morale remains good, though few even in official places know the details of the actual military situation. A check of the Vietnamese-in-the-street here in Hanoi showed that no man questioned knew how close the Vietminh were to the city.

The French outpost for the city in the south-west is at Xuan Mai, 35 kilometres (about 22 miles) from Hanoi. Due north they hold Phulo, about 45 kilometres (28 miles) from Hanoi. But the main Vietminh concentrations are farther back at Thainguyen and beyond Phungthuong, both about 65 kilometres (41 miles) from the capital.

In French circles, mention is sometimes made unofficially of the possibility of having to fall back to the 16th Parallel in Central Vietnam.

PRIMARY TASK

Some Frenchmen think that it is not too late for the United Nations to pull out of Korea and reinforce this strategic frontline here, which is important to the defence of South-East Asia and of its valuable resources of rice, rubber, oil and tin.

These see France's task in Indo-China today as primarily to prevent the country's resources from falling under the control of Russia's satellites.

But some accuse the French Government of being afraid of a United Nations political solution in Indo-China if the United Nations military forces were sought.

Some, too, question the decisions of such vitally affected countries as Australia, Britain, Malaya, Siam and the Philippines to send troops to Korea while leaving their own front door in Indo-China poorly guarded. — Reuter.



The latest photograph of Mr Walter S. Gifford, the new United States Ambassador in London, who has just taken up his duties.—Central Press.

US Curb On New Building

Washington, Jan. 15.

The Government today imposed a 30-day ban on non-essential construction of hotels, stores, banks and other commercial buildings to conserve materials for defence.

The National Production Authority said that after Feb. 15, strict curbs will be imposed under which new projects will be permitted only if they will help further the defence programme, if they are essential to public health, welfare or safety or will alleviate or prevent hardship. — United Press.

Greek Squadron Active

Tokyo, Jan. 15.

Greek pilots flew Dakota transports carrying supplies, ammunition and troops to Korea today.

The Greek squadron with the United Nations forces in Korea includes seven Dakotas and is commanded by Major John Kadzakis and Major Andreas Gorenko, both of Athens.

It arrived on Dec. 1 and began operations within a week. — Reuter.

Reds Rounded Up In Istanbul

Istanbul, Jan. 15.

The police announced on Monday that a round-up of Communists began over the week-end with the arrest of 35 civilians and two Army officers and a search of a number of houses.

More arrests were expected to follow further searches.

The civilians arrested included a journalist and an assistant university professor. The police found documents indicating that some of the arrested persons were agents of a Communist country and that all were working together. — United Press.

Egypt-Uruguay Relations

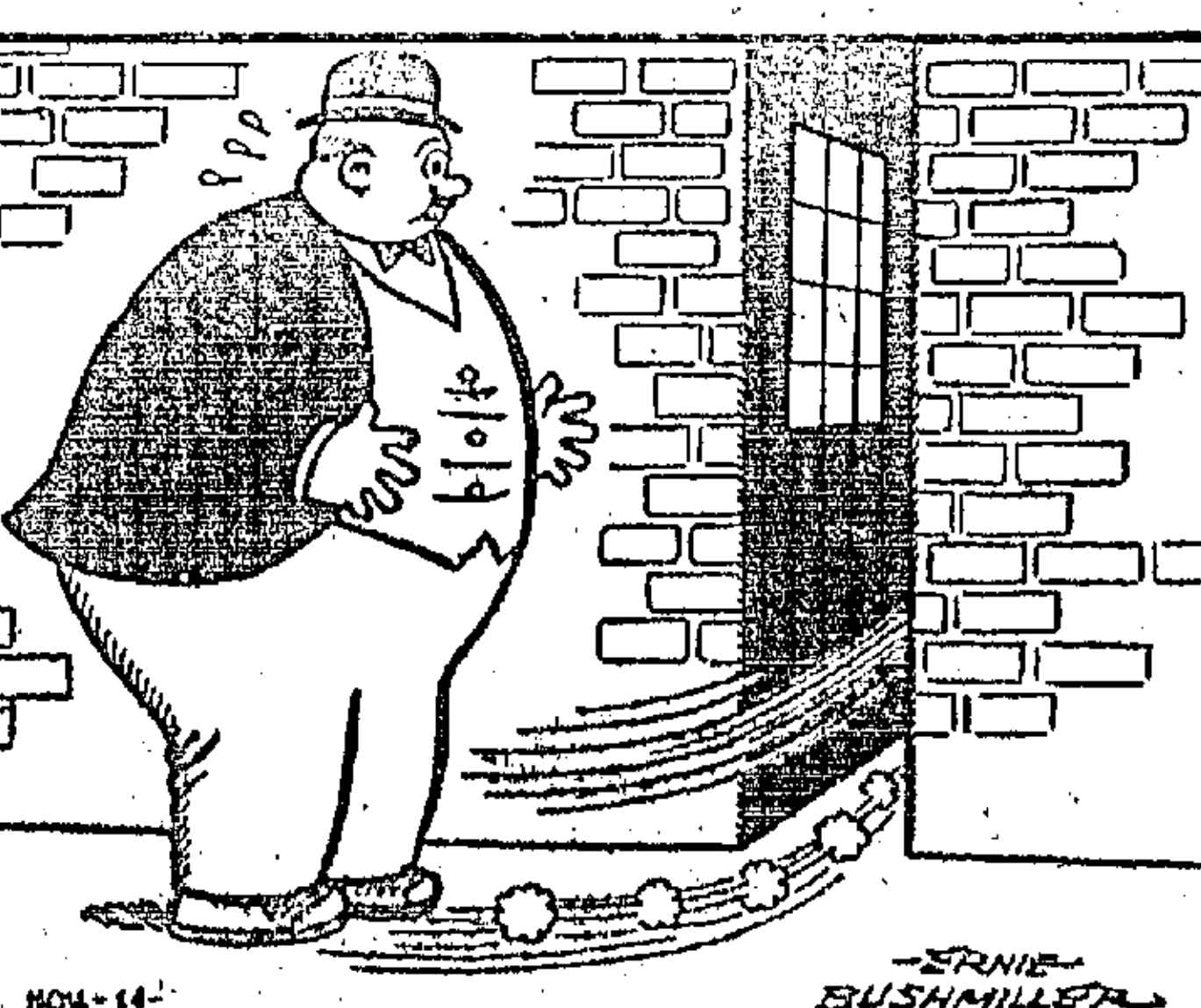
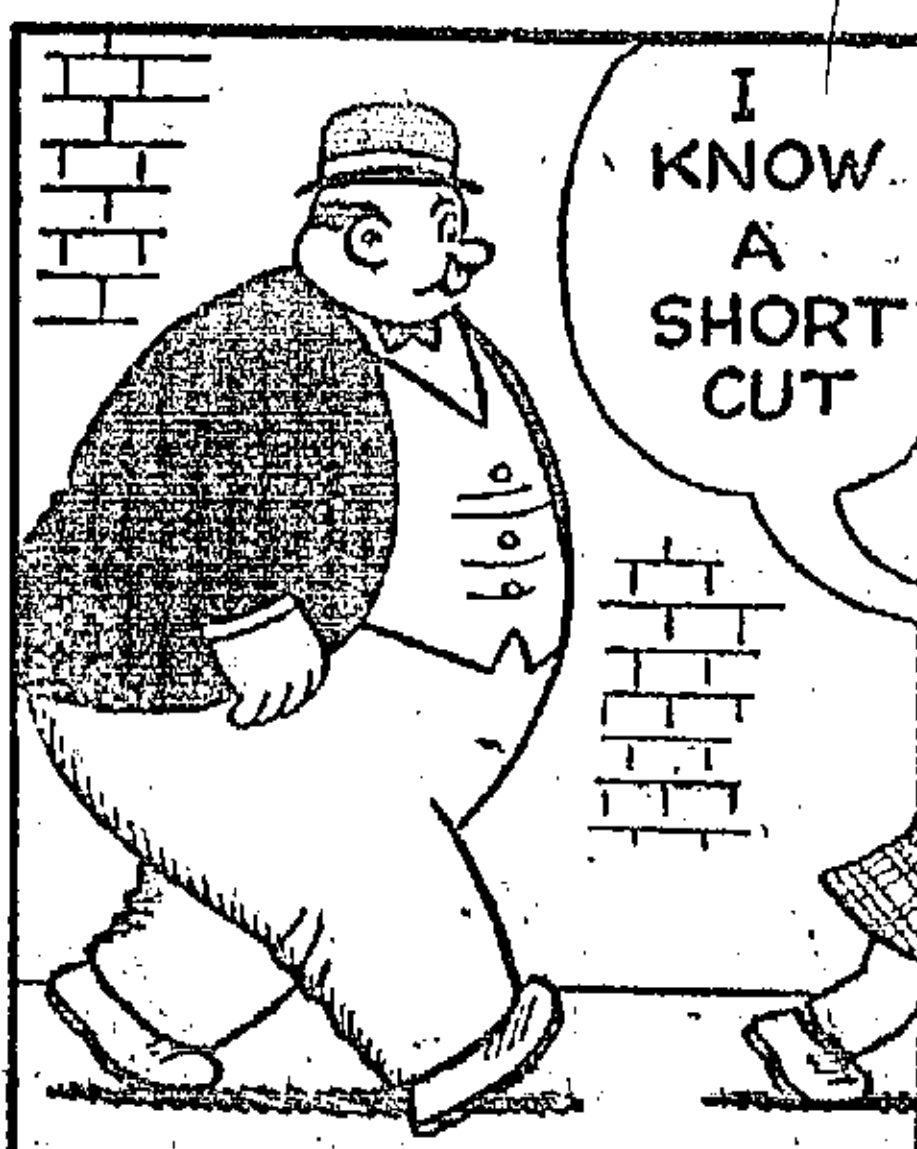
Montevideo, Jan. 15.

The Foreign Ministry announced on Monday that Uruguay and Egypt have established diplomatic relations.

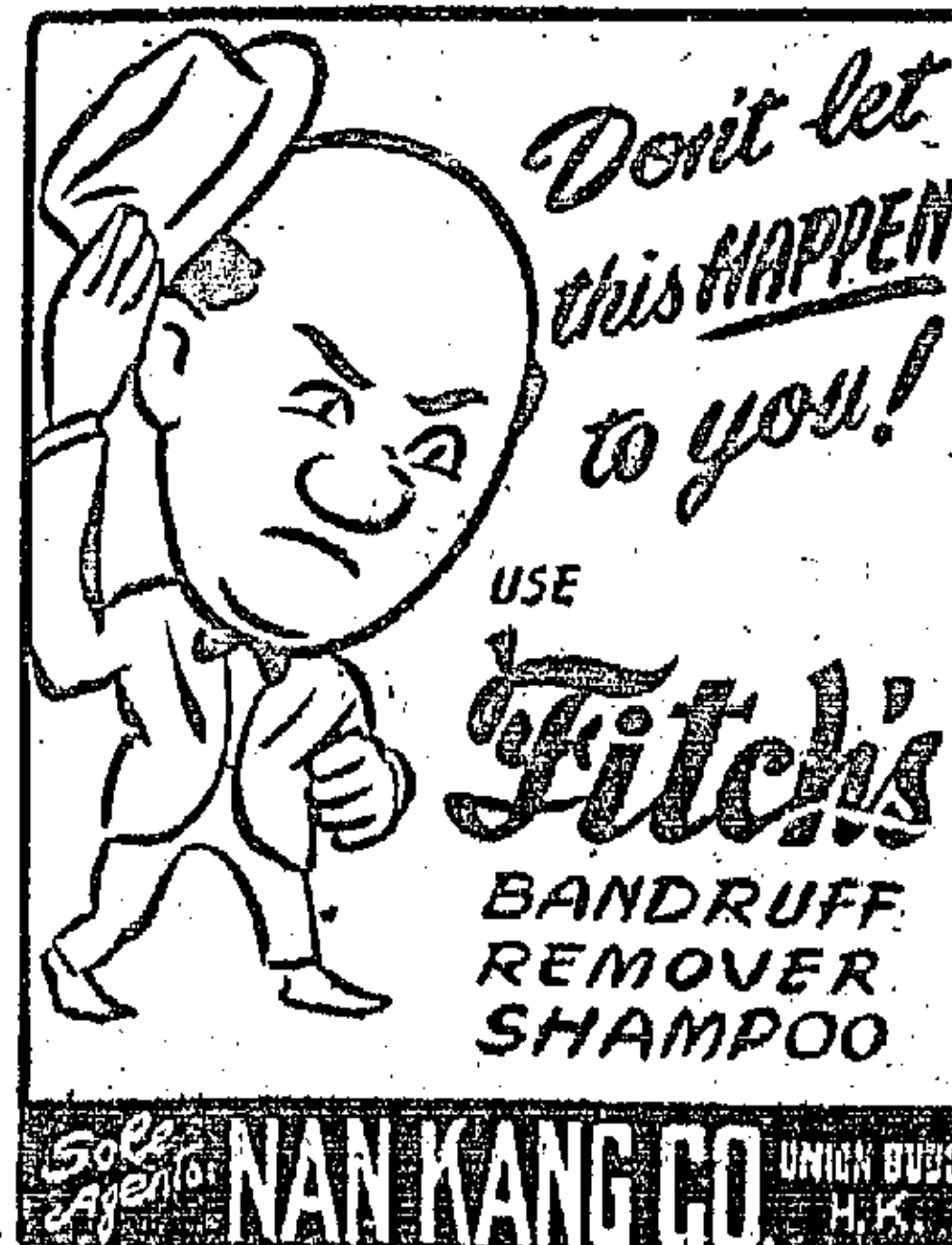
The announcement said the decision had been taken to "promote the ties of friendship between the two countries and permit larger economic and cultural exchange." — United Press.

NANCY

Fat Chance!



By Ernie Bushmiller



"I Need More Lace" Wails Gussie Moran

By CONNIE RYAN

New York.

Gussie Moran's lace pants won a lot of headlines while she was an amateur tennis player, obscuring the fact she didn't win many tennis matches, but the situation is reversed now that she is professional.

The headlines always mention that she lost another match to Pauline Betz Addie on the pro tour with Jack Kramer and Pancho Segura. And the tour has been having a rough time financially.

Sportsman's Diary

At Least They Look Their Part

Umpires for the second Test at Melbourne were different from those used in the first, who had some of their decisions criticised. This does not necessarily mean that Brown had taken any objection to the original pair, although I rather suspect he had.

Whatever their standards in other respects, Australian umpires at least look the part. In place of ill-assorted pairs slouching on with knee-length crumpled coats, Australia turns out her umpires in white boots, black trousers, white hats and newly laundered white coats, lounge-suit length. They even kept step in a brisk march to the wicket.

CHANGING TIMES

Rateable value of the Epsom racecourse for next year has been fixed at £12,000. This is a reduction from £19,500 based on revenue at the course from 1946-48, and shows again that less money is being spent on racing and other pastimes these days.

The three years just after the war were peak years of prosperity for the Epsom Grand Stand Association, who own the course. In 1939 the rateable value of the course was £11,800, which was reduced to £3,500 during the war when no racing was permitted at Epsom.

BIGGER HITTERS

Curtis Cup girl, Elizabeth Price, in telling America the lessons of the match at Buffalo, New York, says the British team returned home determined to get more length "so that when we next play the competition we shall not be playing wooden club shots when our opponents are using irons."

Miss Price confesses that she will never forget the "grain" on the greens, but this has taught her to concentrate more on putting. She hopes the extra concentration will pay dividends.

TOO MUCH MONEY

An American committee in charge of a contest to name the "Athlete of the Year" recently refused to accept the name of Frank Stranahan, this year's winner of the British amateur golf championship, on their ballot list.

Arthur G. Morse, a member of the National Amateur Athletic Union, said he tried to get the golfer nominated, but the committee dismissed the suggestion. One member remarked: "That fellow has too much money for an award of this kind."

Stranahan, of course, is the son of a United States millionaire. He spends as much time as a professional in playing tournament golf, but does not accept any of the money prizes.

PROFITABLE

Outstanding woman golfer of the year—so named by the official United States Golf Guide—is Mrs "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias, holder of the 1950 United States women's professional golf title. She was British woman amateur champion three years ago.

Her winnings? For 1950, to date they total nearly £5,250.

At time of report, the troupe had played 17 of the more than 100 exhibition matches scheduled. Kramer had won nine matches, Segura eight, Mrs Addie had beaten "Gorgeous Gussie" 13 times, there had been two ties and Miss Moran won twice, both times in one-set matches.

Gussie even was finishing second in the glamour-and-sex department. Mrs Addie, a strawberry blonde with a good figure, had more eye-catching apparel—a cerise sweater and very brief satin white shorts, while Gussie wore a pleated white skirt with nylon panties which had a gold band around each leg.

In Chicago, after losing seven matches in a row, Gussie heard someone in the stands ask: "Which one's Gussie?"

"I think I need more lace," Gussie said later. That's what people expect to see, I seemed to have enough lace in amateur tennis, but these pro-fans can't see it."

QUESTIONABLE

Gussie and Pauline were added to the tour when it seemed evident that some box-office hypodermic was needed. Kramer piled up a top-heavy margin over Pancho Gonzales in last year's tour, and it was questionable if the fans would pay this year to see Kramer and Segura. Promoter Bobby Riggs decided that sex-appeal was needed.

However, his original fears were well-founded. The fans haven't been very interested in Kramer-Segura even though the matches are even. The fans just don't seem to accept the pigeon-toed little Ecuadorean, with his retriever tactics, as of championship mould.

The chief hope of pro tennis for next season seems to lie in Gonzales. If he improves this summer and wins the national pro title, now held by Segura, he could tour with Kramer again next year, and perhaps beat the slipping Kramer.—United Press.

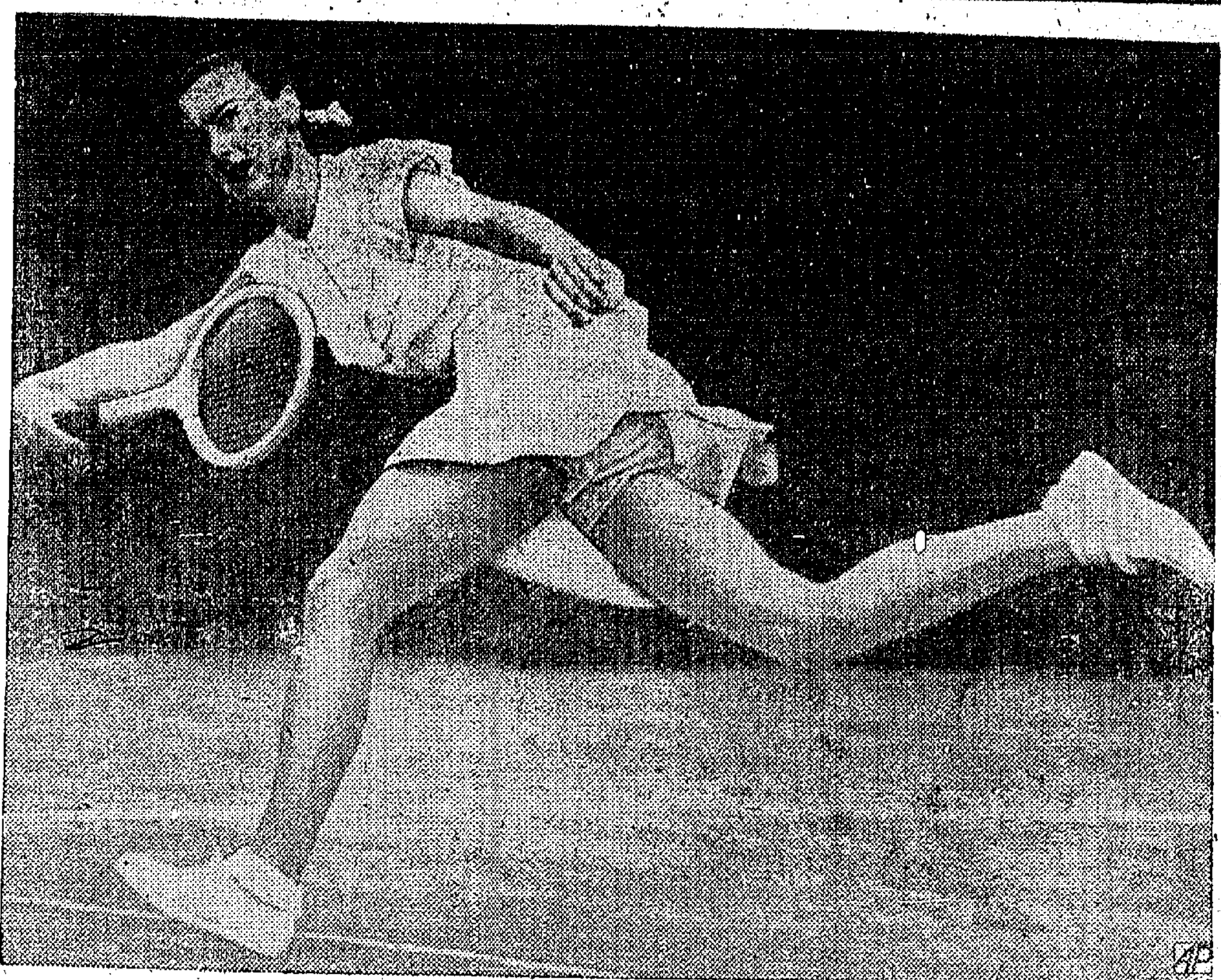
RUGGER TIES KEPT UP

London rugby clubs are continuing to keep close contact with Northern clubs.

The Saracens of Southgate, who in October broke new ground at Liverpool, will have Halifax visiting them in April. Halifax, holders of their county cup, are the club G. A. Turner, of the Saracens, used to play for.

Next year, Sheffield visit Southgate on the morning of a Twickenham international; and in 1952 Fylde, the North Lancashire club, visit London at the invitation of the Saracens, who will play host to Liverpool in September, 1953.

The Southgate club will take in Preston Grasshoppers, Liverpool and Fylde in their 1954 Easter tour. Saracens, who have been directly represented in the England XV by J. H. Steeds, have one of their former players, T. Smith, of Northampton, in the final England Trial at Twickenham on Saturday.



PLANS FOR THE 1951 FESTIVAL OF SPORT

By WALTER PILKINGTON

Visitors to the Festival of Britain 1951 will find that sport has not been neglected; for preliminary plans reveal that arrangements are being made to stage events on a scale never before attempted.

These include international football matches in England with Argentina and Portugal; special prizes to be won on the turf; a £3,000 "Festival of Britain" golf tournament at Bournemouth in June; at least one big open-air boxing match. Even snooker, a game enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of amateurs in Britain, intends to prolong a season which normally ends in June.

The professional best known to snooker players overseas, Joe Davies, is booked for his third summer tour of the Union of South Africa, where he will play the Union champion Peter Mans, Freddy van Rensburg and others. But visitors to London's snooker centre in Leicester Square will enjoy themselves if world champion Walter Donaldson, Fred Davis, brother of the maestro, Sidney Smith, Albert and Alec Brown and Horace Lindrum can be persuaded to detach themselves from their normal summer pursuits to take part in a Festival tournament. Fred Davis runs a seaside hotel; Smith devotes his spare time to writing; Alec Brown is a motorcycle specialist; Albert relaxes with golf and cricket; Donaldson works on his farm.

Snooker, as player by experts, is a fascinating and scientific offshoot of billiards which visitors who know little or nothing of the game would find attractive and absorbing even on a summer's evening. The 22 ball game, which is similar to Pool as played in the United States and Canada, has made so much headway as both a spectacle and a popular recreation in Britain since World War II that its ultimate development in other countries is almost bound to come.

TROPHIES DISPLAY

Brightest Festival idea is a proposal to display as many as possible of Britain's sport trophies—the prizes so rarely if ever seen by the vast majority of the millions who read and argue about them and see clubs and individuals strive to win them. The Government has given its blessing to a plan to collect under one roof the biggest exhibition of cups, shields, belts and other tokens of sporting skill ever seen. Such an array of trophies, all of them steeped in history and linked with famous names, will be a wonderful attraction to many thousands of visitors to the six months' Festival.

Much searching and borrowing will be necessary to make it possible, but the committee appointed to gather together as many trophies as can be found, past and present, are full of enthusiasm for the scheme. The

chairman of the Greyhound Racing Association, Mr Frank Gentle, has accepted principal responsibility. His task of accumulating the many showpieces and guaranteeing their safety is immense, but it will not be skirred. One can well imagine the insistence of the various sporting bodies on a day and night guard of their precious trophies. The Football Association will be mindful of the fact that the original F. A. Cup was stolen more than 50 years ago from a Birmingham jeweller's shop window where it was being displayed after being won by Aston Villa. The thief had little reward for his daring as it was worth only £25, but its sentimental value could not be measured in monetary terms.

The present trophy, now in the proud possession of Arsenal, is the third F. A. Cup. The second was presented to the late Lord Kinnaird, a distinguished president of the Football Association. No one else is ever likely to receive such a unique memento of services rendered. Arsenal hope to be asked for the loan of it but that also is unlikely. They would have to win it again to receive that compliment and it is rare, indeed, for any club to secure possession of it two years together. The feat has not been achieved since Blackburn Rovers gained the Cup in two successive seasons 60 years ago. The same Lancashire club four years earlier were awarded a special trophy for three consecutive wins and Mr Gentle no doubt intends to borrow this commemorative Shield for inclusion in his Festival array of football cups and prizes.

TRIPLE TRIUMPH?

Among the most valuable of more than 100 played for annually by professional and amateur clubs in England is the Football League championship trophy. Arsenal, League leaders and playing like a championship team, are more likely to win this—for the seventh time in 14 seasons—than the F. A. Cup, but it will not be lightly surrendered by Portsmouth, whose club sideboard it has graced for the past two years. Their ambition is a triple triumph, a performance not accomplished since Arsenal's third

successive championship win in 1935.

The Festival Trophy Committee would be delighted if they could have made the Jules Rimet solid gold World Cup for football the centrepiece of their display, but England's defeat in the 1950 series at Rio de Janeiro ruled out this possibility.

There will be more than enough trophies with a direct British association, however, to make the exhibition unique. Cricket, golf, tennis, athletics, racing, swimming, Rugby Union, Rugby League, badminton (this Cup is in Malaya), archery, yachting, billiards, snooker, and many other branches of the legion of sports pursued in Britain have a host of trophies to offer. Racing, particularly, can boast many magnificent and costly cups and vases, among them the first Derby Cup, which was won for the first time in 1780, not at historic Epsom Downs as might be supposed, but in the Isle of Man.

This enumeration of some British sports which have many coveted trophies at stake, reveals that there will be an abundant variety of sport to satisfy and even satiate Festival visitors, irrespective of the special events that are being arranged for this great occasion. Clearly 1951 will be memorable as the year of Britain's record sporting feast.

THE GAMBOLS



GAVE PERSUADED ME THAT THE EXERCISE WOULD STRENGTHEN MY ARMS AND IMPROVE MY GOLF - WHAT WAS YOUR WIFE'S STORY?

WHY U.S. DOES NOT RAISE HUGE ARMY

By O. H. Brandon

HOW soon are American troop reinforcements going to land on the European Continent? How fast is the United States mobilising? These are two cardinal questions Europeans are wondering about, I imagine.

I doubt whether General Bradley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has a precise answer to the first one. Certainly the American military planners expect some new ground units to reach Western Europe by April.

The Air Force will be faster in building up its strength in Europe, and a flow of men and material, little publicised for the time being, is already moving across the Atlantic.

The U.S. Army has committed a very large part of its equipment and personnel in Korea, including most of its reserve stocks of ammunition and supplies. It even drew heavily on regular units of the general reserve and depleted garrisons in Hawaii and partially in the Caribbean.

Experienced non-commissioned officers, the core of any military training programme, were detached from units in the United States, and sent to Korea to bolster "green" troops.

So the course of the war in Korea will have an important influence on the speed with which the American armed forces will get ready for their task in Europe.

A Slow Job

If the U.S. Army has really become so weak, why was not American manpower mobilised immediately?

General Marshall and all his military advisers counselled against it. The average civilian easily forgets that there is no quick and easy way of mounting divisions. The stark fact is that, even assuming the United States would arm at the feverish pace of World War II, it will take two, possibly two and a half, years before American effective ground troop strength is materially increased as a result of decisions taken today.

It takes much more time to make the weapons than to train a soldier. If the men were ill-advisedly called out too soon before their weapons are ready, General Collins argued the other day at a Congressional hearing, the conversion of industry to war production would only be further delayed.



"Mao Tse-Tung please — is that you, China?"

General Marshall supported this view in saying that the most important thing at this time is to lay down the assembly lines, the tooling, the jigs, so that whatever may be necessary could be built up quickly, rather than to get such quantities as can be obtained now without developing the facilities. General Marshall says that even considering that there is a serious possibility of a shooting war within the next six months, he still prefers to give priority to the production of weapons.

It is obviously his belief that the most important thing at the moment is to lay the kind of foundation which will allow for a very rapid mobilisation if that becomes necessary.

The Long View

To plunge the United States into full war mobilisation could be dangerous. It is quite possible that the present threat of war will lessen in a few months. Then full mobilisation after a year or two, may become a serious handicap to the United States not only economically but also psychologically. If no war occurred then there would be a very adverse reaction to war preparedness.

What the United States Government hopes to accomplish is a gradual build-up of strength which would be continuous, and which could be maintained over many years without being subject to the fickleness of American public opinion. The balance of power between Russia and the United States would then also become somewhat more permanent.

But there are many other practical reasons why the United States has to limit itself to a gradual build-up.

There has been a wide discrepancy between what many thought the United States could put into the field and its actual possibilities. Early in World War II, for instance, an army of 300 divisions was envisioned. In subsequent months, the plans were scaled down to 200 divisions, and finally only ninety proved practical.

U.S. Peak Strength

At its peak strength the U.S. army had eighty-nine divisions. On VE Day all of them were overseas. There were no significant reserves of organised combat units left anywhere within the continental limits of this country, something that is unlikely to be permitted to repeat itself in any future war.

And there were no more divisions in the process of formation.

The last division to be organised in World War II was the 65th Infantry Division. It began to be formed in 1943, at a time when the nation was already fully geared to a war effort, nevertheless the time from the day divisional commander was appointed to the day the "65th" entered combat was just a week short of twenty-two months. And this was the normal rather than the exception.

Whether the American military authorities will succeed in reducing the fantastic "overheads" to each fighting division this time remains to be seen. In the last war the Army's own records show that at its peak strength it had more than 60,000 men for every division in the field — a division then amounted to approximately 15,000 men. Today about 19,000 men constitute a U.S. division.

Thus in the last war there were fewer than 2,250,000 ground combat troops out of 6,000,000 men under arms. If the Army's "overhead" had been formed into combat units, it would, theoretically, have had more than 180 divisions instead of eighty-nine.

Speeding Up

Yes, it takes time to build up an army, but the American military leaders have advanced the original target date of 1954 to 1952, and by next summer three and a half million Americans will be in the Army. They are also in full agreement with the political leaders that by preparing to fight in Europe they would not only be fighting for the preservation of Europe, but also for the preservation of the United States.

Persia May Withdraw From Bank

Teheran, Jan. 15. Persia is contemplating withdrawing from membership of International Bank, it was learned here today from a usually reliable source.

This follows the alleged refusal of the Bank to grant a million dollar loan to Persia for the rehabilitation of the Gulf ports of Bushire and Khoramshahr.

The Persian Government has cabled to its representative at the International Bank to investigate whether the loan has, in fact, been refused, and to announce Persia's withdrawal if the report is confirmed, the source adds.

In accordance with the Bank's request, Persia has so far deposited with the International Bank only \$200,000 out of its total share of \$25,000,000. This deposit, it was added, would be withdrawn immediately. — Reuter.

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: South
Game all.

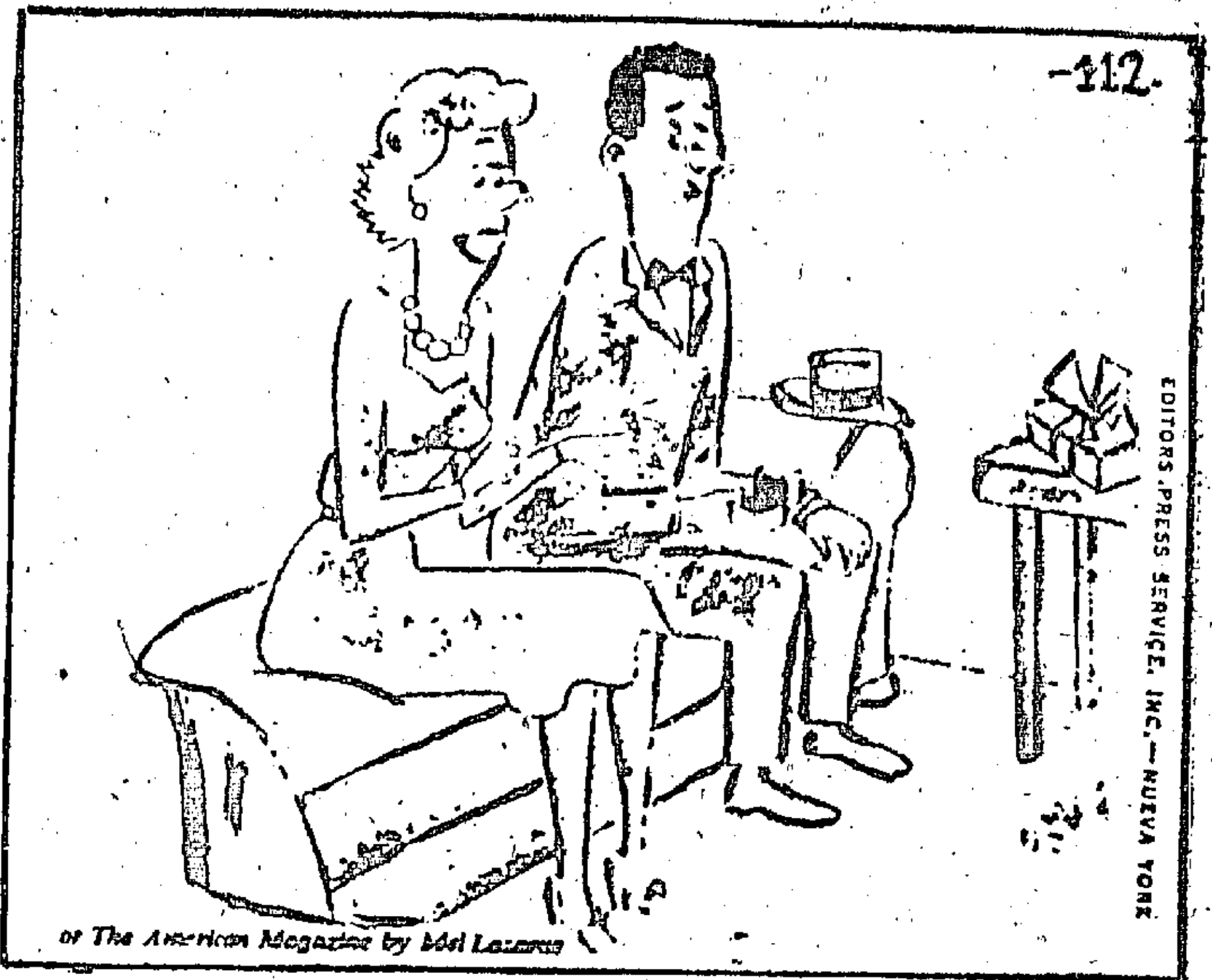
N.			
♠	J 10 8 3		
♥	A Q		
♦	K J		
♣	K Q 10 8 5		
W.			
♠	K 7 4		
♥	K J 6 3		
♦	A 9 6 5 2		
♣	4		
E.			
♠	9 5 2		
♥	4		
♦	Q 8 7 4		
♣	9 7 6 3 2		
S.			
♠	A Q 6		
♥	10 9 8 7 5 2		
♦	10 3		
♣	A J		

Neither side scored a game on this hand from a match between two continental teams, although the best contract was reached in Room 1 after the following bidding: One Heart—Three Clubs; Three Hearts—Three Spades; Four Clubs—Four Hearts.

West led ♠ A followed by ♠ 5. South entered his hand with ♠ A and finessed ♠ Q, but when East failed on the next round he was reduced to the losing Spade finesse and was one down. The proper play is ♠ A followed by ♠ Q; West wins and leads another Diamond, but South continues with trumps and cannot now be cut off from Dummy.

In Room 2 the bidding was One Heart—Two Clubs; Two Hearts—Three No-Trumps. East led ♠ 4 and North was one down after overtaking ♠ J with ♠ Q and finessing Spades.

London Express Service.



"Why, Philip, it's larger than Flo's, as large as Fran's and Horty's, but smaller than Evelyn's, Margie's or Susan's . . ."

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

American Steel Output Record

New York, Jan. 15. America's annual steel-making capacity on Jan. 1, 1951, was a record 104,229,650 tons, more than 4,500,000 tons greater than the 19,392,800 tons capacity on Jan. 1, 1950, the American Iron and Steel Institute has announced.

The new capacity figure is an increase of 22,600,000 tons, or nearly 28 percent since 1940. It is a gain of 13 million tons since 1947. — Reuter.

Grain Price In Chicago

Chicago, Jan. 15. Prices in the grain futures market here closed today as follows:—

Wheat—price per bushel.	
Spot	2.44½
December	2.44¾
March (1951)	2.44-2.44½
May	2.37½
Corn	
Spot	1.77½
December	1.76¾-¾
March (1951)	1.77½-¾
May	1.77½-¾
July	1.76¼
Rye	
December	1.76
May (1951)	1.79
Oats	
December	95 bid
March (1951)	95½-¾
New York flour—per 200 lb. sack.	
\$13.15.—United Press.	

New Wool Price Record

Capetown, Jan. 15. A new South African record price for wool was reached at a Durban sale today when 188½d. per pound was paid. An earlier record was set up at an East London, South Africa, sale today when 10 bales sold for 187d. per pound.

As the auctioneer's hammer fell at the East London sale, pandemonium broke out. The sale had to be adjourned for tea. — Reuter.

Free Rice Sale May Be Permitted

Tokyo, Jan. 15. The Japanese Government is considering permitting the free sale of rice after farmers have completed the delivery of their rice quota, the Agricultural Minister, Mr. Kozen Hirokawa, said here yesterday, according to Japanese Press reports. — Reuter.

Copra In New York

New York, Jan. 15. Sellers offered copra for near-by shipment at \$260 per short ton, C.I.F. the Pacific Coast. Buyers were indifferent. — United Press.

ERRATIC TENDENCY IN COTTON

New York, Jan. 15. Prices of cotton futures moved up and down the ladder, covering a range of 40 points.

Traders remained puzzled over what to expect next in the price control picture and apparently had decided to maintain a fluid position until the picture is clarified. After a lower opening, the market dipped to maximum losses of 17 to 34 points. In the afternoon, the market rebounded and carried prices above the previous close, but in the last five minutes, selling pushed the market 5 to 12 points below the previous close.

Prices closed today as follows:—

July	42.65-42.90
October	39.65
December	39.47
March (1952)	39.33
May	39.05

—United Press.

New Orleans Market

Spot	Closing rate
March (1951)	43.95
May	43.90
July	43.44
October	42.87-42.88
December	39.80-39.83
March (1952)	39.30
May	39.22 bid
	38.93 bid

—United Press.

LONDON TIN MARKET

London, Jan. 15. Tin prices continued to slump this morning. Turnover was 150 tons, including 90 tons for cash.

Prices closed today at the end of the official morning session as follows:—

Spot tin, buyers	1.175
Spot tin, sellers	1.180
Business done at	1.190-1.190
Three-months tin, buyers	1.180
Three-months tin, sellers	1.185
Business done at	1.205-1.185
Settlement	1.180

—United Press.

Rubber Futures In Singapore

Singapore, Jan. 15. Prices in the rubber futures market here closed today as follows:—

Number 1 rubber, per lb.	
January (1951)	207-208
Number 2 rubber, February	200-201
Number 3 rubber, January	202-203
Number 4 rubber, January	196-197
Number 5 rubber, January	187-188
Spot rubber, unbled	219-221
Black crepe	194-196
No. 1 pale crepe	218-223

—United Press.

New York Metals

New York, Jan. 15. Prices in the metal market here closed today unchanged with the following exceptions:—
Tin, Grade A (89.80 percent or higher) New York, per lb. 175
—United Press.

THREATENING COMMUNIST DRIVE

Forces Reach To Within 50 Miles Of U.N. Headquarters

Infiltration By-Passes Wonju Perimeter

Tokyo, Jan. 15.

Communist forces, driving down from the snow-covered hills of Central Korea, reached to within 50 miles of Taegu, the United Nations Headquarters in the South-East, today.

They attacked or threatened at least three points on the main supply road to the defence area south of Wonju.

The Chinese Communist and North Korean forces had apparently called off their frontal onslaught against the United States 2nd Division and the French and Dutch troops holding their unbending line below the city, and had gone back to their familiar tactics of infiltration.

A 2nd Division spokesman admitted that behind the lines activity remained "obscure."

It was clear, he said, that the Chinese Communists, thwarted in their head-on assault to cut through the Eighth Army's escape route to the south, had sent formations over the hills to join the waiting guerillas gnawing at the roots of the United Nations' main defences.

A naval communiqué today hinted at a bloody battle at Choksongni, 15 miles south of the 37th Parallel and 45 miles southeast of Wonju.

Naval planes broke the siege of the town, enabling a rescue convoy to get through while helicopters flew out the wounded, it said.

United Nations reconnaissance patrols on the Western front today re-entered Osan, 30 miles below Seoul, the South Korean capital, in the face of scattered opposition.

A Communist force up to 1,000-strong was reported today to be within 52 miles of the United Nations Korean Headquarters at Taegu, in South-East Korea.

DANGEROUSLY CLOSE

This places Communist troops dangerously close to the main supply road leading south from Chungju, 27 miles south of Wonju.

An Eighth Army communiqué, pinpointing this southernmost advance of the Communist troops, said that they were apparently trying to cut the main supply road.

A small group was also reported to be 30 miles southeast of Wonju, jumping off ground for the drive down the centre of the peninsula.

These, a 2nd Division spokesman said tonight, were definitely not guerillas but an organised force which had infiltrated through the lines. He refused to estimate the number involved, though some unofficial reports put them as high as 10,000.

United Nations troops directly below Wonju were not in contact with the Communist main force today, the spokesman said, but artillery and warplanes inflicted heavy casualties.

OBSCURE

The picture behind the line was "entirely obscure", with guerillas and infiltrating units harassing road traffic through the two passes southeast of Wonju.

The main Communist army in the centre "were hitting hard for a few days but now they have stopped and seem content to hold," the spokesman added.

United Nations troops east of Wonju yesterday recaptured the important secondary road junction of Yongwol.

Though hampered by sleet and mist, United Nations fighters and bombers were out with the dawn on bombing, strafing and rocketing sorties against Northern concentrations on the central and western sectors.

They claimed over 1,000 casualties around Wonju and 1,400 in attacks on the big Communist buildup around Suwon, in the west. In 391 sorties they attacked 47 towns and villages, running into flak around Pyongyang, the Northern capital and sighting only one Yak fighter throughout the day.

Carrier-based planes attacked more than 30 different troop concentrations chiefly around the Wonju and Suwon areas. A naval aircraft was reported to have scored in one area "excellent hits which seemed to have stopped the enemy advance."

TROOP DEPLOYMENT

The latest assessment of the Communist forces spoke of two Chinese Communist armies centred around the towns of Suwon and Osan, about 30 miles south of Seoul, and elements of four armies moving south towards the former South Korean capital.

The American 2nd Division estimated they faced between 8,000 and 10,000 Chinese Communist and North Korean troops on their immediate front at Wonju.

Further north were elements of eight Chinese Communist and North Korean armies and to the east elements of another four armies.

United Nations units, patrolling in force "to give and maintain contact with the enemy" on the western front, clashed with about 800 Communist troops at Kumyang today, it was officially stated.

The eastern sector remained relatively quiet.

The South Korean Naval Headquarters claimed today that 20,000 South Korean guerillas, backed by naval gunfire, were intensifying their activity in the Haeju area, just above the 38th Parallel on the west coast.

Communist attempts to take Yonome Island, 2 miles southeast of Haeju, had been repulsed with the loss of 600 troops.

A refugee woman interrogated today said that as a result of the United Nations bombing, only one big building now remains standing in Wonju.—Reuter.

U.N. OFFENSIVE REPORTED

New York, Jan. 15.

United Nations forces on the western Korean front have gone on the offensive, according to a dispatch from Osan, Korea, broadcast by New York Radio station.

The dispatch said that by nightfall teams composed of tanks and infantry had advanced up to 12 miles northward towards Seoul.—Reuter.

Washington, Jan. 15.

The United States Defence Department said today that the United States 2nd Division in Korea "is not in any danger whatsoever of being cut off and destroyed."

A spokesman at the Department's briefing made this comment on suggestions that en-

circling movements by the Communists had placed the Division in serious danger.

He said that the Division "is doing a hell of a job" in denying the Communists the use of the vital road junction near Wonju.—Reuter.

Racial Segregation In Forces

Washington, Jan. 15.

The American Veterans Committee on Monday demanded the "court martial of the Chief of Staff and all responsible for obstruction to the elimination of race segregation in the armed force."

The resolution, passed by the Educational Planning Committee and sent to the President, deplored the "Army's customary Jim Crow policy." The resolution referred to the President's directive of September 30, 1949, in which he ordered the integration of all white and non-white troops in the armed forces. It asked the President to obtain by Jan. 31 a report on the steps taken in compliance with the directive by the Chief of Staff and commanders of all echelons at home and abroad.

The Committee also urged granting of India's request for direct aid with 2,000,000 tons of food and grain.—United Press.

Threat Of Italian Anti-Eisenhower Demonstration

Rome, Jan. 15.

The Italian Government tonight announced that it would punish, with "the full force of the law," civil servants or public service employees who took part in the protest strikes and demonstrations called by the Communists against General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The North Atlantic Supreme Commander is due here on Wednesday.

General Eisenhower is making a fact-finding tour of the Atlantic Fact capitals. The Government added that it would take severe administrative action, in addition to penal sanctions, against any local authorities, heads of public services or private services of public interest, who favour the Communist attempt to paralyse the city of Rome on the day of the General's arrival.

The Government also declared that the Home Minister had taken measures "to suppress any direct attempt to upset public order and the tranquillity of the citizens."

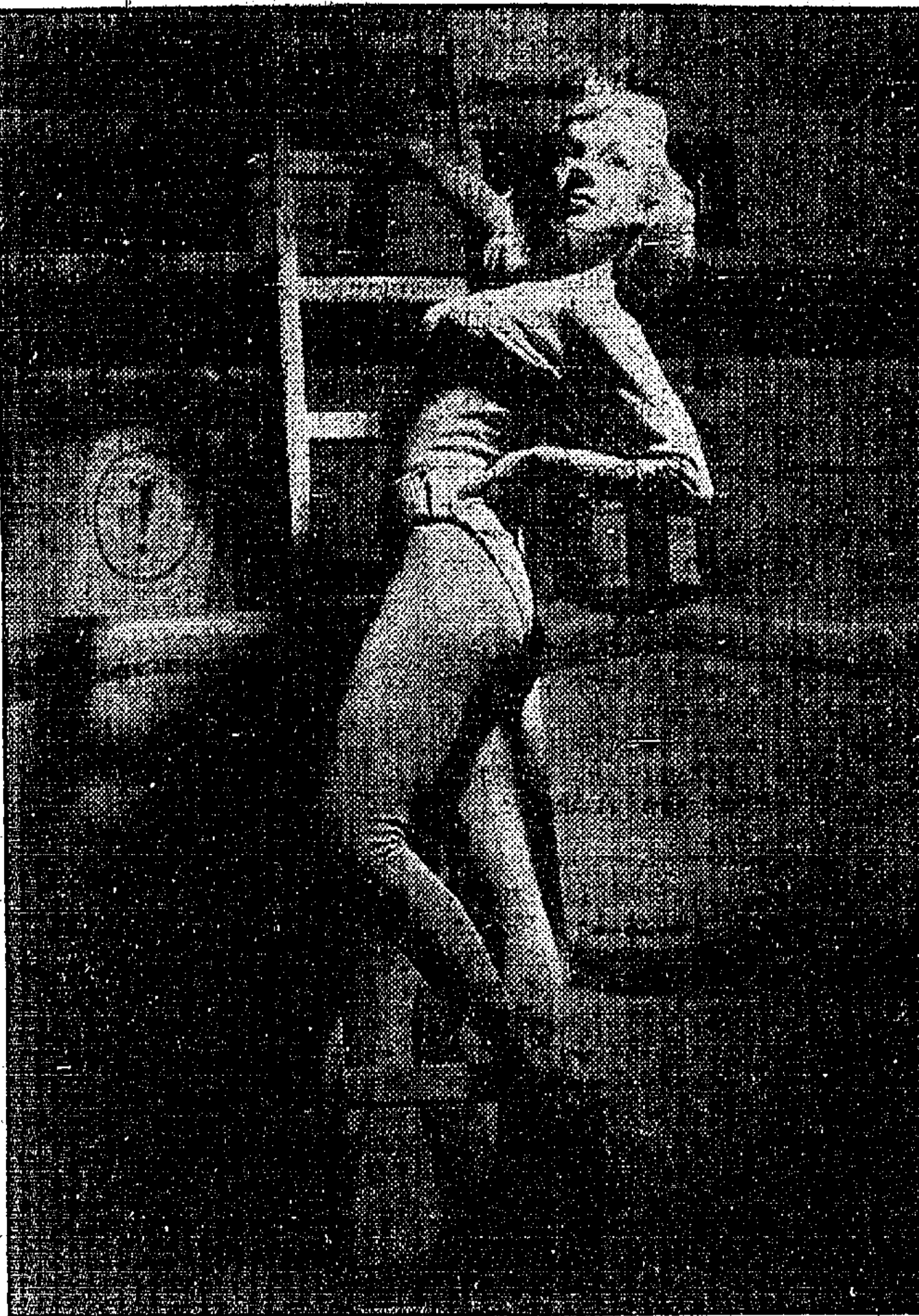
"Strong forces of special 'shock police' were already standing by today, armed and steel-helmeted, ready

to go into action in jeeps fitted with sirens.

Rome police have taken into custody about 40 Communists found distributing leaflets or organising protest demonstrations against General Eisenhower.

Several arrests were made in cinemas, where Communist youths staged demonstrations against "the new Kesselring" (Marshal Kesselring was the Commander of Hitler's forces in Italy).

Semi-official sources reported that the Communist Party had fully mobilised its "activities" in Rome to organise a final effort of European Communism to intimidate General Eisenhower on his initial inspection tour in Europe.—Reuter.



The steps this young lady learned for the ballet may be taking her up the ladder to stardom. Aud Yohansen was trained in Norway and went to dance in Britain, where she was so liked that she was given several dances in "Sauce Tartare." Now, aged 20, a career lies before her, so there are plenty of reasons why little Aud should laugh.

Portuguese Ship Sends Out S.O.S.

St. John's, Newfoundland, Jan. 15.

The 334 tons Portuguese motor ship Nereus today sent out an S. O. S. saying that she had steering trouble in a storm in mid-Atlantic.

She was bound from Lisbon for St. John's and gave her position as about 1,200 miles east of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Transport department officials said that they were trying to send help.—Reuter.

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NOTICE

CHINESE ESTATES, LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the TWENTY-FOURTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Company's Office, China Building, 5th floor, Hong Kong, on Friday, the 2nd February, 1951, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with the Statement of Accounts, for the year ended the 31st December, 1950, and to elect Directors and Appoint Auditor.

The Transfer Book of the Company will be closed from the 25th January, to 2nd February, 1951 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of share can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

MOK HING RUN

Secretary

Hongkong, 14th Jan., 1951.

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